

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain in the application. Claims 21-24 are withdrawn. Claims 1-3, 5-10, and 13-20 are allowed. The abstract has been amended to overcome the objection to the abstract. The specification at page 3, line 12, at page 4, line 7 and line 12, and at page 15, line 21 has been amended to overcome the objections to the specification. The specification at page 15, line 22 has been amended to overcome the objection to the FIG. 3c drawing. Dependent claims 4, 11 and 12 have been amended to overcome the objections to the claims. No new matter has been included with these amendments.

A. Abstract

The abstract is objected to under the MPEP § 608.01 (b) because legal phraseology such as comprise is used. The abstract has been amended to overcome the objection. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the abstract is respectfully requested.

B. Specification

The specification has been objected to at page 3, line 12, suggesting FIG. 3a to be FIG. 4a, at page 4, line 7 suggesting FIG. 3a to be FIG 4a, at page 4, line 12, suggesting FIG. 3c to be FIG. 4c, and at page 15, line 21, suggesting hard mask layer 108 to be hard mask layer 308. The specification has been amended to overcome the objections. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the specification are respectfully requested.

C. Drawings

FIG. c has been objected to for missing the trench designation 312. The specification at page 15, line 22 has been amended to overcome the objection to the FIG. 3c drawing. Thus,

reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to FIG. 3c is respectfully requested.

D. Claim objections

Claims 4 has been objected to for claiming a range not supported in the specification. Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the objection. Claims 11 and 12 have been objected to for a formality. Claims 11 and 12 have been amended to overcome the objection. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to claims 4, 11 and 12 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants request allowance of the application. Please forward further communications to the address of record. If the Examiner needs to contact the below-signed agent to further the prosecution of the application, the contact number is (503) 264-0944.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kathy Ortiz # 54,351/
Kathy Ortiz
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 54,351

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